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LETTER DATED 10 JANUARY 1964 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF PANAMA  
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On behalf of the Government of the Republic and in my capacity as Ambassador of Panama and Permanent Representative of my country to the United Nations, I have the honour, in accordance with Articles 34 (1) and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, to request you to allow me to exercise my prerogative of asking for a meeting of the Security Council to be held as soon as possible for the purpose of considering urgent matters connected with the grave situation that exists between Panama and the United States of America because of the Canal enclave in our territory.

The tragic situation with which we are now confronted in the Isthmus of Panama has been brought about by the repeated threats and acts of aggression committed by the Government of the United States of America in the Republic of Panama, which infringe our territorial sovereignty, violate our territorial integrity and constitute in practice a serious danger to peace and international security.

The most serious acts - and I cite only the most glaring - were those committed as a result of the intolerance of the United States troops stationed in the Canal Zone on 3 November 1959, which resulted in a total of eighty wounded. Since yesterday Panama has been the victim of bloody aggression, which has left a total of twenty dead and over 300 wounded, thus endangering peace and international security.

If the situation continues to deteriorate, the state of alarm fraught with insecurity and violence is bound to continue, and we accordingly request that the United Nations, with all the respect due to us as a free, independent and sovereign nation and in accordance with the principles of international law,

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should intervene, so that these acts of aggression may be considered by the Security Council, over which you so worthily preside.

(Signed) Aquilino E. BOYD  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of Panama  
to the United Nations

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